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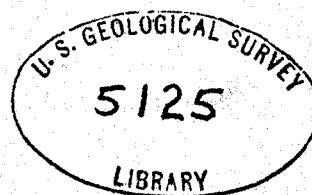
White, A.F., 1871,

THIRD BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

STATE MINERALOGIST.

for 1869-1870



AUG 9 1951

First report - for 1866 - The Elko County } area
Second " - 1867-1868 - " " " }

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Before Mar. 5, 1869 - See Lander County.

COPE DISTRICT.

This district was organized May 22d, 1869. It is on the Owyhee River seven miles southeast of the State line. A company, exploring the country from Silver City, Idaho, to Elko, discovered the mines in April. There is abundant supply of water, and fir timber is found within a short distance. There are fine natural meadows in places along the Owyhee. In July, 1870, the thermometer stood at 95° above zero at noon; in the shade in December, 1869, it fell to 20° below zero. Ice often forms during the night in August. Through the portion of the district north of the Owyhee, granite prevails. South of the Owyhee slate and limestone abound.

ARGENTA.

Located May 27th, 1869. Fourteen hundred feet are claimed. Course, northeast; width on the surface, three feet. The country rock is granite stained with iron. The ledge is shipped for seven hundred feet. The vein varies in course. An incline follows it to the depth of fifty feet. A drift, from the incline, follows the ledge one hundred and thirty feet east, north and sixty-five feet north. The ore is stained with iron and carries one half of one per cent. in lead and a trace of copper. Some of the ore is exceedingly rich. Five pounds yield 1.40. The mill is now in operation. The assay value. A second drift, sixty feet below the first, runs south

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from the incline ninety feet, and north of it sixty-five feet on the vein. Through this level the vein maintains its width, and dips 44° east, and is quite regular. The ore yields \$125 per ton. The third level is but thirty feet below the second, where the vein is five feet in width, and the ore assays from \$6 to \$140 per ton. In this level the vein stands perpendicularly. A thousand tons reduced, yielded, by pulp assay, \$115 per ton. This was second-class ore. Seventy-eight tons of the first-class ore averaged \$470 per ton.

MOUNTAIN CITY.

Located July 4th, 1869. Sixteen hundred feet are claimed. The float rock contained sheets of horn silver. A shaft follows the vein to the depth of seventy feet. The first level is at the depth of forty-five feet. It extends west of the shaft, two hundred feet; east of it, three hundred feet. The course of the vein is east and west. Dip, perpendicular. Stopping is done to the surface. The country rock is slate. The width of the vein on the surface is from two to four feet. It increases to six feet at the bottom of the shaft. The ore is a chloride, and carries horn and native silver, some iron, lead and antimony, with a stain of copper. Assays show from \$50 to \$1,200 per ton, in silver.

CRESCENT.

Located June 20th, 1869. One thousand feet are claimed. Course, north; dip, 45° east; width, from two to three and a half feet. Country rock is granite. An incline follows the vein to the depth of two hundred and twenty feet. The ore contains chloride silver to the depth of eighty feet, where the sulphurets appear. At this point, also, the vein is broken; the upper part seems to have slipped to the west. By following a seam of clay eastward, nearly in a level, for seventy feet, through broken granite, the vein appeared again, assuming its former dip. The walls are lined with clay and are very solid granite. Width of the vein at this point is twelve inches, with a gradual increase to the depth of seventy feet, where it is three and a half feet wide. Forty-six tons yielded \$1919, or \$41 71 per ton. Six tons of this yielded \$325 per ton. Two hundred and twenty-five tons reduced, at another time, yielded \$95 per ton.

The Buckeye, Monitor, Great Eastern, Mammoth, Idaho, California, Sunny Hill, Crown Point, and other claims give promise of richness and permanency. They were all located in June, July and August, 1870, and need developing.

It is a remarkable fact that no capital has been brought into this district. The mines have yielded dividends largely above the cost of working.

MILLS.

The mill belonging to the Cope Mill and Mining Company has ten stamps, an engine of thirty-five horse-power, four Horn's patent pans, two Belden's, eight settlers, and capacity to reduce eighteen tons in twenty-four hours. The ore reduced has yielded about \$5 per ton in gold.

There is another mill being erected by Mr. Vance.

A portable saw-mill in the neighborhood cuts four thousand feet of lumber in twenty-four hours.